

3 December 2009

North Belut Gas Field Starts Production

INPEX CORPORATION is pleased to announce that its wholly owned subsidiary INPEX Natuna, Ltd. together with its co-venturers ConocoPhillips (the operator) and Chevron, has started natural gas production from the newly developed North Belut gas field, in the South Natuna Sea Block B Production Sharing Contract on 16 November 2009.

It is planned to ramp up to sustained gas production rates in excess of 200MMscfd and condensate and LPG of over 20,000 barrels per day in 2010. An active and continuing development drilling program will add this production capacity from start up throughout 2010.

The North Belut field is part of the ongoing development of gas and associated liquids within Block B to meet existing long-term gas sales obligations to Malaysia. The project includes drilling and completing numerous wells; engineering, procurement, construction and installation of two wellhead platforms, an intrafield pipeline, one central processing platform capable of processing condensate-rich gas, and export pipelines to the Kerisi pipeline end manifold where it will connect with the existing Block B pipeline infrastructure. The Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) produced will supply the Indonesian domestic market in support of the Government's kerosene to LPG conversion program.

The North Belut field is located offshore in the South Natuna Sea, Indonesia, and is about 1,180 km north of capital city of Jakarta. ConocoPhillips operates the field with a 40% participating interest while Chevron holds a 25% and INPEX holds a 35%.

INPEX has been expanding its exploration and development activities in Indonesia as one of its international business core areas. INPEX is conducting production activity in the Offshore Mahakam Block with the largest gas production in Indonesia. INPEX is also in the process of developing large scale Abadi LNG project in the Masela Block, the Arafura Sea, which INPEX is now preparing for the Front End Engineering and Design (FEED) as the Operator.



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The production start from the North Belut gas field will further expand the INPEX's petroleum exploration and development activities in Indonesia. Through this sustainable and optimal development of hydrocarbon resources, INPEX would like to contribute to the long-term development of the oil and gas industry in Indonesia.

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